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Introduction to Literature Conference.

BY MRS. T. C. ATCHISON, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

MADAM PRESIDENT AND DELEGATES TO THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE GENERAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY:

THESE twenty years of experience have taught us *many lessons*. Pet theories have oft been vanquished and practical efforts brought to the fore front. It is not a meaningless fact that one hour and fifteen minutes of the precious time of this Convention have been set aside for the consideration of "The Function of Literature in Missions." Literature has not always had so important a place in the plan of missions as it has to-day. Seemingly, we are but beginning to understand that as the two oars propel the faster the row-boat, and the two wings enable the bird the better to fly, so the two agencies—the preached word and the printed word—propel the faster the gospel chariot.

Literature in missions has many functions. She comes as a counselor to give wisdom to our plans; she comes as a strengthener to multiply our opportunities and to be hands and feet for us in our absence; she comes as a rebuker to explain our failures and to shame us for the lowness of our ideals; she comes as a light to drive away the darkness of indifference in the homeland and the darkness of superstition in the lands of heathendom. We do not need to tell you that two of the great obstacles to the progress of missions in the church to-day are ignorance and apathy. In knowledge, there is power in the field of missions, as elsewhere.

Edwin P. Whipple said "From the time of the invention of printing, *books and not Kings* were to rule in the world. Weapons forged in the mind, keen-edged, and brighter than a sunbeam, were to supplant the sword and the battle-axe. Books! Light-houses on the sea of time! Books! By whose sorcery the whole pageantry of the world's history moves in solemn procession before the eyes. From their pages great souls look down in all their grandeur, undimmed by the faults and follies of earthly existence consecrated by time."

Neal Dow was a successful temperance agitator and his directions were to sow the State knee-deep with literature.

Frances E. Willard, who gave to the past century such an up-lift for good, used to say, "We must stab the enemies of *God* and *home* and *native land* with our steel pens."

In the last issue of that interesting lit-

tle magazine, "Blessed Be Egypt," which is edited by Annie Van Somner, in connection with the "Prayer Union" for Egypt, we read this request, "We would earnestly ask, also, that unceasing prayer may be made that the *Nile Mission Press* may quickly come to pass; that there may be no delay." We believe if Egypt could be flooded with silent messengers, bearing some simple words of the Saviour, some clear convincing words easy to be understood, we should find a harvest to be reaped.

What has been done has brought forth fruit. What might not be done by concentrated faith and effort in this direction? Testimonials, unnumbered, come to us of the marvelous power of the printed word. It is not the loudest report, which carries the shot the longest way, or does the most for the cause in which it is fired. The noiseless tract often enters into more doors, and lights more cold and desolate hearts than much that is of greater pretensions.

Gospel truth may find its way to the heart through the eye as well as the ear. Who doubts the wisdom of this society in sending into the homes of our women that monthly messenger of light known as "THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY MAGAZINE," laden, as it always is, with so much that is instructive and uplifting? Who would doubt the wisdom of sending forth to the coming armor-bearers that bright little magazine for our Juniors? Or, who would doubt the wisdom of our Women's Board in sending out a series of leaflets, such as it recently issued, laden with so much information concerning the different departments of our work! Who could doubt the wisdom of the seed-sowing word of the colporteur, as we come face to face with the results therefrom in our mission fields of Egypt and India.

May this Conference give us a better understanding of these agencies of power.

Place of Literature in Foreign Field.

MRS. W. C. WILLIAMSON, Keokuk, Ia.

THE two God-given agencies for the spread of the gospel are the living voice and the printed page. The press stands next to the ministry at home and abroad. It has been the first solicitude o f all Christian workers, since the apostolic times, to have the Bible "placed in heathen darkness, that its illuminating rays may scatter the thick clouds and bring the blessed days of gospel light." If there be a place in missions for education, then there must be a place for literature. There are different means employed by missionaries to bring the people to a knowledge of Christ and train them in the Christian life. In all our knowledge of missionaries we find them trying to make a written language where they have it not in order that they may educate the people they are laboring among, and so bring them up to a higher plane and fit them for a knowledge of the Bible and a better, purer, nobler life. This seems to be their greatest need, and made so by their teaching.

God expects of us an open Bible in every language. His command is "Go teach all nations." The need is great. What shall we do? What shall we publish and by whom? The missionary societies should be urged to make Christian literature a permanent part of their work and to appoint and sustain missionaries for this department. Those already in the field are overburdened and are not always fitted for this kind of work, therefore persons suited to literary work and translating should be appointed. These should not merely translate Christian books, but encourage native Christians to write books, periodicals, tracts, etc.

in harmony with their own ideas and according to their environments, so that they may be easily understood by the people they wish to benefit. This must be done under the guidance and with the assistance of the missionaries, as all should be used as channels of instruction in Christian thought and be devoted to the discussion and exposition of Christian truth; be real Christian periodicals in every sense of the word. The native Christians may become skilled workmen in the mission press. I fear that at present. India is better furnished with a literature in defense of Hinduism (which is strewn broadcast and free) than are the defenders of our Christian faith.

How can we hope to overcome the evil of their false religions unless we give to the reading, thinking, intelligent convert food to feed and sustain him in the new life, and awake those we wish to save? Gladstone said, "We talk about the questions of the hour." There is but one question, how to bring the truth of God's word into vital contact with the heart and minds of all classes of people." It is not because the importance of Christian literature is not sufficiently understood, but the means have not been furnished and the missionaries, already overburdened, cannot accomplish all they long to do. Therefore, what shall be done by us? What shall we do?

HOW TO CIRCULATE.

There are many difficulties to overcome in this respect. First, to do this in a commercial way, that financially we fail not. Second, the people are indifferent to this kind of literature generally and a market has to be created. Then in some countries there has to be permission given for the distribution or sale of such books. Then the indifference of agents has to be overcome. As to the first, a good business superintendent should be in charge; second, it has been suggested that the stimulating of education in countries so opposed, will help to overcome this opposition; third, that the books and periodicals be made attractive in appearance and prices be made as low as possible. Get intelligent natives interested in the reading and advertisements.

The colporteurs have grown to be an army. They talk and read to the people, invite the people to question them and sell to them the scripture, tracts, and direct to the nearest mission. Only those who have studied this subject, or worked in the mission fields realize how great is the need; how many difficulties lie in the way; that Christian literature may possess both funds and men for the work; but let us all say, "God willing, it shall be done."

In the Church at Home.

MRS. GEORGE L. DUNN, Erie, Pa.

The Literature of the church at home occupies a primary place. The world waits for Christ from America. We have received the command, "Go ye;" we have no choice but obedience. The great need of the church at home is information. Knowledge is the true and substantial basis of an interest in missions. The way to awaken and intensify missionary zeal in the church is through the sources of information. In one of the Prophecies we read, "The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord." We must do our part in fulfilling this prophecy. Knowledge is a mighty power and has many agents at work, the tongue, the pen and the press.

The lecturer and the essayist are laboring in the fields of knowledge and the press is busy in scattering their seedlings. Whether tares or wheat it will germinate and yield a harvest to be reaped and used by the young and inexperienced. In other words thousands of books, pamphlets, magazines and newspapers are daily scattered, bearing the sentiments of thinkers and writers. Many of them are found in our Sabbath-school libraries and offered as Sabbath reading and contribute largely to the formation of character. How much knowledge thus offered carries with it a

helpful moral influence? That the winnower would find but a few measures of grain in the heap of chaff we do not doubt.

The literature furnished by the church must be the wheat; it must be free from sentimental gush and contain the actual results of missionary efforts to date. We are a busy people and must present our knowledge in a condensed business-like manner. An attractive, well-written leaflet will be read by people who have not time to read long articles. Our periodicals must be the equal of any monthly of the day.

In the church a large proportion of the membership are not interested in the cause of missions. To interest them in any enterprise they must become well informed concerning it. Now from whom is this information to be received? Only from those who are informed themselves. There are so many helps, so many direct appeals to the uninterested, that may be used to arouse them to an interest in missions, if they can only be led to read them. Every family in the congregation I represent takes a church paper. Our pastor has made us feel that the literature of our church is something we must not neglect. The pastor who neglects his church literature robs his people of their spiritual birthright and "wrongs his own soul." The present interested workers should unite with the one object in view, viz: to reach the indifferent professing Christian with church literature. If they would with God's blessing, for say ten years, we would have a fulfillment of the Prophecy in Hab. 2: 14. It could then be read, "the earth *is* filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord." The church must accomplish this end and it must begin now. We have a promised helper, "Work, for I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts." If our Board has received a telegraphic dispatch or cablegram from far-off India, the contents of which are encouraging or interesting, take it to the editor of the daily press. He will be glad to print it free of cost as news. Every one reads the news column and thus many of the uninterested church members will become interested in missions. We must place missionary literature where it will be read; in the daily papers as well as the church papers. Scatter it in tract form, by messengers into the homes of the church membership. Boldly display it on blackboards in the Sabbath-school room and prayer-meeting room. Continually announce news of special interest from the pulpit, anywhere to awaken an interest in missions. See that reading-rooms and public libraries are supplied with our Magazine and church papers. I think if all denominations would appeal to our public library management, a special section might be set apart for all books which bear upon the subject of missions. This would prove a valuable help to societies without a library of their own.

Prejudice has to be overcome. Slanders and inunendoes against missions and missionaries are being circulated, and are quietly accepted by the ignorant and the careless. They are repeated again and again without challenge. Only knowledge can refute unfounded statements which bring God's work into disfavor with many of God's people. But information, accurate and attractive, will assuredly create favorable missionary opinion and widen its radius of influence.

The Co-ordination with the Bible of other Christian Literature.

By Mrs. W. T. McConnell, Turtle Creek, Pa.

THERE is one book—the blessed word of God. Of none other can it be said: "It is the sword of the Spirit." "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." The great purpose of all missionary effort has been to bring the Bible within the reach and understanding of all who are without God and without hope in the world; for "the entrance of thy word giveth light."

The two great means of witnessing are by the spoken and the written word. Hence the written word—literature is in the very foundation of the scheme of missions. The function of other literature with the Bible is to attract to and open up the word of the living God; to exhibit the beauty and power of its truth and to proclaim and prove the Christ, which it reveals, the only Saviour of the world. It is a recognized fact that the primer, the exposition and illustration are needed with the Bible as the candle to illuminate its pages in darkness. We would therefore urge the necessity of co-ordination with the Bible of other Christian literature.

First: To simplify and open the Scriptures to the comprehension of the ignorant and non-Christian. No pains should be spared to prepare and help the darkened mind to grasp the meaning of the wonderful word of God. Henry Nott, of Tahiti, plain, uneducated mechanic as he was, recognized the great need of simplicity, and his message reached a whole nation because written and begun with a tract primer. The zenana worker has found primary school books invaluable in placing the Bible within the reach of native women. Mrs. Howard Taylor speaks of the helpfulness of simple books as Peep of Day Series, such as we give to little children. Tracts, leaflets and Sabbath-school papers are of the greatest value in getting before the people the truth in simple form. Dull minds listen to the missionaries' words but drift away from the congregation with scarcely one complete idea of what it is all about; but a tract in the hand, which repeats and explains the message, may be the means of bringing them to the Master. Rev. Clough, of Nellore, tells of a robber band that had defied and baffled the police, but having read tracts in their fastnesses were changed by the Spirit through this truth and twelve applied for baptism.

Second: To Nurture and Develop those already learned. We are teaching the people of the foreign fields to read, both in our Christian and secular schools. Miss Eastman asks: "Is it putting it too strongly, to say that this instruction is a positive injury unless good wholesome literature is provided?" Since there is no provision for this by the church, the missions are largely dependent on the publications of the Bible, tract and other religious societies whose works are necessarily translations and of little value to touch the heart, because of their references to unfamiliar customs and places. To be adequate and used of the Spirit, as a power to awaken the conscience and establish the truth, the literature should be under the supervision of a missionary with native help that it may be written in the idiom of their own language and expressive of their feelings and experiences. This department of work should be liberally supported. Miss Martin, of the Sialkot Girls' School, has difficulty in securing good reading and says, "India as yet has little literature interesting and helpful to young girls," and this is the universal testimony.

Those in Christian schools have the Bible but on venturing to read outside of it they fall into the clutches of writers

whose work is death. The giving of the Bible is the great essential but "when tons of atheistic, agnostic and pernicious literature are annually issued in India," and "Arabic literature, proud, self-confident, domineering, stands forth like a mighty Goliath," what are we doing for our Christian communities and students? Read they will when once taught to read and it is for the church of Christ to decide and provide what they shall read.

Our scheme of missions should bring to bear upon the native Christian and non-Christian communities forces of spiritual nurture, adapted to their needs, and in harmony with their environment, so that those who partially appreciate Christian ideals of manliness, may steadily grow "into the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" and those who know not the way of life may be pointed to Him who said, "And I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me."

Biography as an Inspiration.

By Mrs. Lucy M. Barber, Cedarville, O.

WE HAVE this thought from the pen of another, "God has always taught principles most forcibly by embodying them in some human life. He wraps His truth around and weaves it into the fibers of a life and sends that life out into the world as a teaching force." We see this in His own word. We will call attention to but two instances: Moses was a man of strong faith and had great love for God and for his brethren. He preferred their cause to his own interests; was their teacher; plead often with God for them; was God's mouth-piece to them. Paul was consecrated wholly to Christ's work; he was constrained by His love; he had himself ever in readiness to obey the direction of the Holy Spirit; he longed to preach Christ to all nations. As Moses' biography is an inspiration to home missions so Paul's is to foreign missions.

It is an acknowledged fact that personal contact and intercourse with missionaries is one of the strongest forces to inspire us to mission work. But this we may not have. Let us take their written lives, study and assimilate them, until we can love those whom they loved, and have the same longing for their salvation; then will we have much of the same inspiration they had. The Rev. Dr. A. J. Gordon read the life of David Brainerd once every year. He was zealously devoted to missions.

In the study of biographies of missionaries we learn of the people among whom they labor, of the land in which they work. Mrs. Shauffer said in the Ecumenical Missionary Conference, "It seems to me the missionary biographies, so full of live interest, are like great pegs on which the history of these countries may be hung. If we want to study Africa, get to know the story of Moffat, Phillips and Livingstone, and all those who have worked and lived and labored there."

Biographies of missionaries have inspired many to give themselves to mission work. Jonathan Edwards' "Life of David Brainerd" sent Henry Martyn to India. This same biography was also the means of inspiring Samuel Marsden to undertake his great work for New Zealand. It was as a teacher told the story of the sweet young life and early death of Harriet Newell that Eliza Agnew's heart was so deeply touched, that she then and there decided "she would go as a missionary to tell the heathen about Jesus." Alexander Mackey had his thoughts turned to the foreign field by the "Life of Patteson." The "Autobiography of John G. Paton" has sent many missionaries to the field and it did more. When I

Paton revisited Great Britain after an absence of ten years, he says, "The contrast powerfully impressed me; *then* I had to beg for pulpits; *now* my committee were overwhelmed with hundreds of invitations from every corner of the three kingdoms. What had happened in the interval? My autobiography had been published, all had read it and I was now welcomed everywhere with a wide open door." To the same influence is due the establishment of the "John G. Paton Mission," whose aim it is to carry the gospel to every non-evangelized corner of The New Hebrides. In 1894 the committee having this fund in charge reported twelve thousand pounds on hands which were donations received from readers of his book. The Bishop of Ripon said as he laid down the story of "John Williams' Missionary Career," I have now been reading the 29th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles." Mr. Darwin, the scientist, after his observations in the South Pacific wrote, "The life of the missionary is the enchanter's wand." Theodore said, "If the whole missionary work had accomplished no more than the building up of one such character as Adoniram Judson it would be worth all it cost." Rev. Beach says, "In the realm of biography Henry Martyn will never be out of date. What names today are written in largest letters in the story of Africa? Not those who guide the affairs of government but the names of Robert Moffatt and David Livingstone. In India viceroys and generals may be forgotten, but Carey, Swartz, Marshman, Reginald Heber, Edward Parker and scores of others shine resplendent as the very stars of heaven."

Then if God has set His seal of approval on biographies as an inspiration in His own word; as we may learn so many lessons of faith, love, perseverance and dependence upon God; as we learn much of the history and conditions of different countries; as many have been influenced to go unto the uttermost parts of the earth and others to give money to carry on the work, let biographies have a large place in our missionary libraries and means be used to interest all in the reading of them.

The Educative Influence of Attractive Literature.

MRS. ROBT. A. EVANS, Minden, Neb.

IT HAS been said by one of the best literary authorities of our day that the habit of reading has become national with the American people. He says also that for the most part good books are chosen. If this be true it augurs good to our nation.

All will admit that books are one of the chief educative influences of our day—character builders and life teachers they are called. For good or evil every faculty of our being receives the impress of the book we read. According to its quality we are either uplifted spiritually, or our moral sensibilities are dulled; we are strengthened and quickened mentally, or the mind is weakened; and even the physical life through the medium of the nerves, is either helped or hindered.

Says one, "If we cannot bring to our children the living friends we would have for them, we can bring to them those scarcely less real comrades—books." With no less care, therefore, should these silent companions be chosen, than their boy and girl associates. But it is to be feared, alas, that many a well meaning, even Christian, mother spends more time and thought in selecting the decorative raiment of her daughter than the books that the daughter reads, the influence of which she will carry through eternity.

A writer in "Success" says, "The habit of holding the mind steadily and persistently to the thought of a good book not only increases the power of concentration but also improves the quality of the mind."

Inspiring reading is that in which life-building words abound, for words are things which unconsciously enrich character. The image of each helpful word held in the mind leaves its impress, its autograph, so to speak, there and continually reproduces itself in uplifting thoughts The boy or girl so nurtured will have been given the best means of acquiring a mentality of the very highest order." Spiritually the effect is no less great. The apostle Paul brings this to our notice when he writes to Timothy, "From a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

Leigh Richmond, the author of the beautiful little story of "The Dairyman's Daughter," before his death, heard of three hundred souls who had been converted through the reading of his tract, and it is known only to our all-knowing Father how many of his children have been lifted up into a higher plane of Christian living by the devotional works of F. B. Meyer, Andrew Murray and others. Dear young people, do not pass by this class of books, even though at first sight they may not appear as attractive as those in story form, but prize and read them next to the Bible.

We have the secret of Miss Marian Paden's offering herself for foreign mission work as well as of her parents cheerfully giving up their daughter and providing for her support, when her mother tells us that they have always had the papers and Women's Magazines of four different denominations besides the Missionary Review of the World in their home.

As we have heard from the preceding speaker, biography is most helpful and attractive literature. And in this age the influence of religious fiction cannot be overlooked. There is no doubt of its attractiveness. The power of fiction over the mind, the attraction of the details of one life, whether real or imaginary, for another, was at last recognized and turned to good account and as a result we have such books as Pansy's and Ralph Connor's. Then there are the historical and other novels of standard authors, which should be and are read by the young. But let not these "bon-bons" of literature be eaten to excess or they will destroy the appetite for plain, nourishing food, which must by all means be used. Then in choosing these great educators for young people let us look first to the moral influence, next to the attractiveness and then to the literary value.

Circulating Libraries with Competent Directors of Missionary Literature.

In Our Congregations.

MRS. W. M. HOPPING, Uniontown, O.

ONE of the greatest hindrances to advance in missionary work is the indifference of a large portion of the church membership. A few are carrying the burden of the work while the majority are care free. Says Mrs. Wheaton, "One part of our church already beieves and the other part does not care. Ignorance is the greatest source of weakness in missionary effort. *Know* and you will believe; *know* and you will pray; *know* and you will help in the front rank." While all may have a vague idea that the contributions of the church are used in giving the gospel to the heathen, few have a definite knowledge of the work or the workers. To be interested in a people we must know of their condition, their

habits, their needs, their joys and sorrows, their hopes and aspirations. "There is no interest in a thing unknown."

Some one has said, "An informed church is a transformed church." How is the church membership to be informed that it may be transformed? The pastor and the missionary in their brief addresses can only touch upon the subject. The missionary society interests but a small percentage of the women of the church. There is a way by which the work of the pastor and society may be supplemented and made more effective, and that is a circulating missionary library in every congregation. There is no lack of printed information. There are books to interest all ages and all classes. It is only necessary to make careful use of the material. There are two very important and closely related words in the statement of my subject, Circulating and Competent. To be of use a library must be circulating. Too often after the first enthusiasm attending the procuring of the library has died out, the library becomes more ornamental than useful. To avoid this competent directors should be appointed. They should be readers of missionary literature themselves that they may be competent to direct others to books best suited to their tastes.

They should be persons who realize the importance of placing missionary literature in every home. They should have tact and enthusiasm so as to be able by a hint or kindly suggestion to persuade others to read the books and thus an interest will be awakened.

The word circulating suggests the plan adopted by our State Libraries. To every school or society in the state requesting it, a small library of books is sent, the school paying the cost of transportation. When these are read a new supply may be secured. There are standard works, books relating to our own missionary fields and periodicals giving the latest missionary information, which should be in every library. There are also many books which arouse interest and enthusiasm which are not read a second time. Could not some exchange be arranged among the societies, could not our Board of Publication devise some plan similar to that of the State Library by which these books could be transferred from one society to another and thus a fresh supply of literature be furnished many of our congregations that have not the means to purchase the books for themselves?

In Our Colleges and Seminaries.

By Miss Margaret McLaughrey, New Wilmington, Pa.

What a boon to hungry humanity circulating libraries have become! In this busy, bustling age, when men and women are stretching every nerve to its utmost tension in the ceaseless struggle for daily bread, the few hours for recreation at their disposal are spent in the effort to find diversion either in society or in books Not many books can be owned by private individuals, so the circulating library has sprung up in almost every town and hamlet in our land bringing the wealth of the ages to our very doors. Then since the available supply of books is so great the whole subject of reading resolves itself into the simple question—What shall I select? while the answer is determined by our tastes; we read what appeals to us be it wholesome or poisonous.

In all our colleges and seminaries there are extensive libraries, each possibly having a missionary alcove. How many and what books may be circulating through these libraries must be decided by those in charge. The most competent directors for the missionary alcoves are found, no doubt, in the faculties; for certainly in the seminaries, and presumably in the colleges some instructors are sufficiently interested to read missionary literature and select the works most suitable for their students. But valuable assistance in this selection can sometimes be rendered by the mission study classes and the volunteers.

But perhaps there is no money for the

purchase of such books. All students and professors who are enthusiastic devotees to the cause of missions certainly have enough influence with the directors of libraries to secure an apportionment of the general fund. If this should fail they may solicit from interested friends, or there is the last resort of purchasing from one's own private purse a few of the most needful books.

Then arises the question of selection. No matter how little money we have, the books should by all means be attractive —attractive in appearance as well as in substance. They should be tastefully bound, clearly printed on good paper with broad margins if we would overcome the general prejudice against books of a religious nature. They must also be interesting. Missionary literature has kept pace with the march of progress and is no whit below the literary standard required by cultured readers. It is truly a clear evidence of the guidance of the Holy Spirit that such busy men as the missionaries themselves, unaccustomed as they are to the use of their own language, have been able to write books of surpassing literary merit and thrilling interest. It surely must be that they have dipped their pens in their own life blood drawn from the inmost recesses of their hearts.

As nothing in life is so effective as example, the biographies of these heroic men and women who have followed the Master into the darkest depths of heathendom must have a large place in the minds and hearts of those who are being educated for His service. We have the lives of hosts of such men as Carey, Livingstone, Judson, Paton that must touch the heart of every boy and girl whose mind is not already saturated with sentimental fiction. What these men have done in the pioneer field, others may never be called upon to do, yet if necessary there is manhood and womanhood enough yet "to strive, to suffer, and be strong."

As we have a right to expect our young people to take possession of that part of the great wide field assigned to our own church, we must provide them with its literature that they may know its needs, its difficulties, its prospects. Our missionaries have been no less active than others in keeping the home church informed and have written some noble works. Dr. Gordon's "Our Indian Mission," Dr. Stewart's "Life and Work in India" and Dr. Watson's "American Mission in Egypt" are filled from cover to cover with vital interest. Missions have their romance as well as their tragedy and this too should be found in our libraries for the young must have something bright to look forward to.

But after all, the great problem is how to get these books read. Ruskin has said in "Sesame and Lilies" "Will you go and gossip with your housemaid or your stable boy when you may talk with queens and kings?" Alas! many of our students are too well satisfied with the gossip of the stable boy to put themselves in proper attire to meet kings and queens so remain ever ignorant of the pleasure and profit that might be theirs for the exertion of obtaining. Some students complain that their studies are so exacting that when they have time for reading they need something light and amusing and for them the time does not come when they can read the literature of the greatest movement of modern times.

If by means of spirit-filled directors missionary literature can be made to circulate freely among our young men and women it must bring about results that will tell in the evangelization of the world. Students are eager for literature of some sort. They are now in the formative period when impressions are easily made. They are just choosing their life work and do we realize that it will take just about one student out of every three in our colleges and seminaries to make up the 480 missionaries now called for? We dream of the time when the United Presbyterian church shall endow a mission chair in every one of her colleges; when

mission study will not be limited to a little band of volunteers and a few of their associates; but until then we must make the best of such material as we can command. We must fill the missionary alcove with an abundance of interesting literature, make it the most attractive place in the library, then disclose to our students the hordes of treasures there and induce them to explore the mines. We must supply the living voice as well as the printed pages to acquaint them with "that divine event toward which the whole creation moves." Then may we help to realize the watchword of the Student Volunteer Movement—The world for Christ in this generation.

In the Sabbath-school.

MISS MARY WILSON, Baldwin, Pa.

In order that we obtain the best results in any line of work it is necessary to go to the very beginning of it to understand its principles and laws. And so the same idea may be carried into religious matters. And more especially is it true with this great question of missions. We must first learn something about how missions started; something in regard to the noble men and women who endured many a hardship for the cause of Christ and from whose lives we will gain more interest in this great cause. Or we must know fully what is going on today on fields of missions.

Now the question comes before us, Where are we going to start in our churches today? And how are we going to go about the work of having a number or all interested? It seems to me that one of the most important places in the church to lay a good foundation for missionary interest, if not the most important, is in the Sabbath-school. And more especially is it true among the younger members of the school; those who are some day to be the men and women in our churches; those little girls who will soon stand in our places today and lead the missionary societies. If a lively interest is started in their lives now it will grow with the years and who is able to estimate the outcome? Or another good way would be to select a number, say 10 or 12, good, earnest Christian workers who are full of the spirit of missions, and have a course of reading in missionary literature and soon a little leaven will leaven the whole.

In this great age of advantage in printing we have excellent periodicals and live books on missions. Get a certain number, say 10 or 15, and among them must be some that will suit the younger ones, the children; such as the lives of men and women, and place these in the hands of some one who has time and ability to conduct the letting out of these books in a systematic way. May be let a book out for two weeks and then pass it on to another. When they are interesting books and conducted in this way there is bound to be an interest come from it. If there is some one in your Sabbath-school who is a strong worker there but who does not have much interest in missions, let the director of your library place one of your best books in her hands with the kind request that she read it carefully and return it at the limited time. She will not refuse you and soon you will win her into this great cause. One of the reasons why our missionary societies are not as strong as they ought to be in many of our churches today is because the younger ones of the church, those in the Sabbath-school, have not had the means of obtaining knowledge about this great cause. But above all use care in selecting your books and get those that will interest the kind of people you have to deal with. Those books that would be of interest to one would not be of interest at all to another. Hence study the tastes and habits of those you want to reach.

Such books as are along the line of missions are very reasonable in price, and just 10 or 20 cents per member from your society will give you a splendid start. It is the only way of arousing interest, for we can not all go into the fields and see the deep needs with our eyes. Let us as missionary societies show more interest in missionary literature.

Our Missionary Magazine--An Educational Agency.

By Mrs. H. N. Freeman, McAlvy's Fort, Pa.

One hundred years ago there was but one strictly missionary magazine; now their name is legion. Compare the missionary activity of today and then we cannot doubt that the magazine is an educational agency. This is a changed world since Jonathan Edwards searched in the news letters of his day for the least hint of something concerning the kingdom of his Master.

Dr. Chamberlain tells us there was one question he never could answer the people of India. When he would tell them the story of the cross, why God sent his only Son from His house in glory to come and suffer and die that they might be saved from sin, suffering and woe, they asked, "How long ago" and when told over 1800 years ago, they said, "Why did you not tell us sooner?" The only reason we can think of is lack of knowledge. Could we but look but for one day upon the awful condition of the heathen we would run with swift feet and willing hands to help them. There would be a sacrifice of some comfort, some luxury or even of some necessity. To know surely would be to do. But many of us cannot go to those lands and see their needs ourselves. We must see through another's eyes; we cannot allhear persons speak who have been there; we do not all have access to books upon the subject. The Missionary Magazine is within the reach of all. So many of us are such busy people we do not have time to read large books, but we have a few minutes to pick up the Magazine and read possibly but a few words, but enough to arouse our interest. We read a bit of news from the missionaries; perhaps some sorrow has come to them and our sympathy goes out to them and a prayer is sent upward to the throne for them; or perhaps we read of some joy, or soul success and our voiceless thanks go up to God. Those soldiers of the cross—how much they need our sympathy and our prayers.

The educational agency of literary publications is recognized everywhere. There are 29 publications devoted solely to iron and hardware interests; 16 to lumber; 21 to photography and 80 to the raising of poultry. We are sure our very own Missionary Magazine has been a great educational agency. Never have we known a woman who has taken it and read it but was more interested in missions. During the Reformation it is said that from cradles over which mothers poured forth their prayers and their tears came forth men who stood for the defence of the Reformation. So from cradles over which nothers bend whose hearts have been fired with missionary zeal will come forth those who will go to tell the heathen the glad news of salvation.

In the midst of a political compaign how the daily papers are bought and their contents greedily devoured. During the South African war what made the tense look upon every face as they jostled one against another to get the latest news? In many a heart it was love of country and loyalty to their sovereign. Shall we not as loyal subjects to our King and Master be interested and eagerly long for news of the advancement of His kingdom, and for the news as it comes month by month to us?

The Missionary Press

Its Power in Awakening Intelligent Appreciation of Missionary Work.

By Miss Jennie H. Pollock, Canonsburg, Pa.

The poet Lowell says:

"At the birth of each new era with a recognizing start
Nation wildiy looks at nation, standing with mute lips apart."

Have we reached the dawn of such an era for the great missionary cause? Some things seem to indicate that we have. The power of the Missionary Press is, next to the agency of the Holy Spirit, the greatest instrumentality in the world to produce this new era. The Press is one of the mightiest forces of modern civilization in the formation of character, in directing impulses, in stimulating tendencies and in shaping events. When it reaches out into the broad field of battle with the truth shining from its pages, then we realize the force of the saying of Napoleon, "Four newspapers are more to be feared than a thousand bayonets."

Miss Willard has said: "The voice that speaks dies on the air almost before its echoes reach us, but the 'firm type' and 'black ink' hold through months and years." When you have gotten a thought in 'cold type,' it is there "for keeps." The value of the printed page cannot be overstated. Its influence, like the ever widening circle of the ocean's wave, will go on into the countless ages of eternity. Through the literature issued from the Missionary Press we have a history of the work in the past; a true picture of its present status; an earnest of its future achievement; and a most powerful human agency to create intelligent zeal.

The crying need of the Church today, in all its various lines of Christian activity, is an intelligent grasp of the situation of the great mission fields that cover the world, ripe to the harvest, whose dearth of reapers proclaim the inability to carry out Christ's great commission. One of the greatest hindrances to the growth of missions is ignorance. Many years ago it was written;—"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." The reason we lack enthusiasm is because we lack knowledge. To know and then to do has been the watchword of many a faithful student of mission work. Armed with a constantly growing knowledge of the literature just fresh from the press, and an ardent desire to pass it on, will arouse a flame of missionary sentiment such as, by God's grace, can never be extinguished.

If we mean to attain, we must contain that which will bring us in the front rank with the best thoughts of the times. In these intensely active days we must be students of facts. Dr. Pierson tells us—"Facts are the fingers of God." To know the facts of modern missions as given through the Missionary Press, is an essential condition to intelligent interest, and will lead us forward into a larger triumph for the cause than we have yet known.

Each year the Press becomes a greater power and our active workers should utilize the secular as well as the religious press, which reaches all homes, and influences all minds. Just a few lines boiled down, the real essence of mission effort, and sandwiched into the columns of the daily or weekly, will be read by thousands who are not subscribers to any missionary magazine, and who are too busy, or too indifferent, to read the eaflets issued by our societies. Intelligent, enlightened piety, can be more rapidly developed by the Missionary Press, but let us not hesitate to use that mighty lever, the secular press, also, to disseminate the missionary Spirit, and stimulate to effort, if we would in truth live up to the motto—"The World for Christ's Own Kingdom."

A Searchlight on the Growth of Missionary Literature.

By Miss Elizabeth Caughey, Otto, Pa.

The first publication of literature by our Women's Board was in 1889; it was "The Mission Band Helper," a pamphlet containing 256 pages of exercises for children, compiled by Mrs. Mary Clokey Porter.

The organized literature work was begun in 1891 by the appointment of a Literature committee, with Mrs. M. C. Porter as chairman.

Our first catalogue of literature published in 1892 was composed of leaflets bearing on Foreign, Home and Freedmen's missions; leaflets selected from samples furnished by other Boards.

The first leaflets published by the Literature committee were "Aunt Rosa of Asyut" by Miss Martha McKown, of Egypt; "A Day's Itinerating," by Rosa T. Wilson, of India. Since then through the kindness of missionaries, of friends throughout the church and of Mrs. Mary Clokey Porter, who has written fifteen for us, we now have over fifty of our own publications.

In 1898, 3154 leaflets were sold and 30,000 copies of "Thanksgiving Ann" sent free with Thank-offering boxes. In 1894 the literature committee reports having sold 653 leaflets and distributed free 2827.

In 1895 Mrs. Annie R. Herron was elected our first Literature secretary; 14,890 leaflets were sold this year and 906 given away. In '96, Mrs. E. J. McPherson was elected and continued in office two years. The first year she sold 16,866 and distributed free, 1725. In '97 11,428 were sold and 2072 given free. In '98 Mrs. J. A. Grier was elected and served two years. In '98 the sales were 7,847; free, 997. In '99 15,038 were sold and 2,555 were given free. In 1900 Miss Emma Mabon was elected. Her sales for this year amounted to 9281 and she distributed free 2975. In '01 5838 leaflets were sold and 27,289, including Prayer Calendars, were sent free. In '02 Elizabeth Caughey was elected; sale of leaflets numbered 13,761; free ones, including "Prosperous Work," 15,050. In '03 there were sold 16,307 and distributed free, 6,520.

Conclusion.

Madam President:—Our Conference on "The Function of Literature in Missions" is ended. We trust the fruit will be an inspiration to greater interest in the study of missions and a wider distribution of missionary literature. And our prayer is that the time may soon come when, like the leaves from the tree of life, the printed word may be scattered everywhere for the healing of the nations.

Editorial.

The Way to Heaven.

Heaven is open every day;
In Night also
He that would wend his upward way
May surely go.
There is no wall to the demesne
Where God resides; nor any screen
To hide the glories of that scene—
If man will know
The ladder which the Hebrew saw
Whenas he slept,
From earth God never doth updraw,
But still hath kept;
And angels ever to and fro

On errands swiftly glide and glow,—
For love above, for love below,
Its rounds have stept.

Thereon the saint doth daily mount
Above the stars,
Caring no whit to take account
Of earthly bars;
Since well 'tis known to such as he
There are no guards but pass him free;
He hath the watchword and the key,
In peace, or wars.

—*Charles Goodrich Whiting*

At the May convention, it was directed that the papers read at the Literature Conference should be reproduced in the Magazine. We have decided to collect as many of these brief essays as we can obtain and offer them in compact form to our readers, so that the latter may have a fair idea of the sequence of the Conference, and may possess, in one issue of the Magazine, a large supply of literature about literature, thus rendered available for reference purposes. The carrying out of this plan will necessitate the omission of other material from our pages, and will prohibit the production of any papers with regard to the Sixth India Mission Study. But as much has already during the year been given respecting that country, and as presumably the local societies are supplied with textbooks, we think that the circumstances justify us in making a departure from our schedule. We are sure that the able articles presented this month, dealing as they do with various phases of the topic of missionary literature will be most profitable; and we earnestly commend "Our Literature Number" to the attentive reading of the women of the church.

In the death of Dr. J. C. Boyd, associate editor of the United Presbyterian, two of our missionaries in Egypt sustained the loss of a father. How sad must they have been during the long period of his decline, as they could not fail to realize the entire improbability of ever again seeing his beloved face! And now that the blow has fallen, even all the distractions of their busy life will not be sufficient to keep their hearts from aching. May these mourning ones be granted a consciousness of the Heavenly Father's presence!

Sorrow upon sorrow seems to have fallen upon Mrs. Annie R. Herron, the president of our Women's Board. She has lately been bereaved in the death of a sister. Our sincerest sympathy flows toward this sorely-tried friend, and earnestly do we hope that she may experience the sustaining grace of Him whose love never fails.

Greatly to the regret of all interested in the Indian mission at Tama, Mrs. Giffen has been forced to resign her post at that place. Ill health has been the cause of this step. We are sorry for the Indians and very sorry that Mrs. Giffen is not well. The Magazine hopes that her health may be restored speedily.

It is said that when he was first elevated to the Papal church Leo sent a special envoy to the excommunicated Old Catholic, Dr. Doellinger, with the message, "Come back, for there is another Pope." "Yes," answered the clear-sighted and resolute theologian, "but the same Papacy.—*The Advance.*

During recent months Xenia has been having many opportunities of seeing foreign missionaries at short range and of learning from their lips much of the situation in the remote fields. But furloughs come to an end and our friends must return to their work. We learn that Miss Kyle expects soon to leave for Egypt and Rev. D. R. Gordon has already made his sad separation from family and friends, and is outward bound. Mrs. Gordon and her two children, on account of precarious health, are obliged to remain behind at this time. We are sure that nothing but the most cogent reasons would have led to such a decision, and our sympathy is heartily enlisted both for those who remain, and for him who goes.

We must testify to Mr. Gordon's liber-

ality in leaving with the Magazine a sheaf of most interesting pictures of Indian scenes. These were given us for the benefit of our readers, with whom we hope to share the pleasure and profit derivable from the photographs. Our frontispiece, this month, so appropriate to a Literature Number, the Gurdaspur Mission Reading-room, is taken from this recently acquired collection.

It is stimulating to read of the progress of societies here and there. We have some knowledge of the strong effort made by Wisconsin Presbyterial and are happy in noting its advance. At its last meeting last August the program was carried out in full and every paper and conference showed careful and prayerful preparation. The work of the past year has been that of progress in every particular. There were $402.25 sent to Missions while last year they sent $290.62. The Junior work as reported is very encouraging. The delegation that came from each society to the presbyterial convention showed a marked interest in the work. At this meeting was Miss Mary Paul, the missionary to West Allis, who gave a very encouraging report of the work there; also Miss Adelle McMillan, from Alexandria, Egypt, was present. Her most helpful and earnest address together with a question box conducted by her did much to make the meeting a success, to arouse all to great enthusiasm and interest in the work in Egypt, and can not but prove effectual in the interest, prayers and offerings for the faithful work that is being done in the foreign fields.

The Presbyterial most heartily endorsed the resolutions from the W. G. M. S. as a whole and voted to secure a member of the Women's Board to visit each society in the presbytery this fall. The convention closed; all feeling thankful for growing interest in the cause of missions and for the good they had received at this their fourth annual convention. The retiring secretary, Mrs. H. N. Cornes, wishes to thank all of the women of Wisconsin Presbyterial for their kindness and prompt replies to her letters and their faithfulness in carrying out what work was asked of them by her during her labors among them.

From time to time we have had occasion to speak affectionately of our Associate Reformed friends. There is another branch of God's people, the Associate Presbyterian, to whom we are most closely allied, and toward whom our hearts should turn with the loving sentiment of relationship. We always read with interest of their mission at Seoni, India, carried on in collaboration with the Original Secession church of Scotland. In the last Annual Report of this mission, we observe that at the Seoni Sabbath-school, the total attendance during the year has been 12,281, the average for each Sabbath it was open being 245.

The following paragraph is clipped from the Woman's Missionary Friend:

"Geronimo, the notorious chief of the Apache Indians, has united with the Methodist church at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. The old warrior has made public confession of his many bloody deeds and has issued a proclamation to his people, urging them to give up worldly amusements and to repent of their sins."

Surely the grace of God is omnipotent. Marvelous must be the power which could work such a change in the heart of that "Apache Tamerlane," of whom one has written:

"The eagle feather on his head
Is dull with many a bloody stain,
While darkly on his lowering brow
Forever rests the mark of Cain.
Have you but seen a tiger caged
And sullen through his barriers glare?
Mark well his human prototype,
The fierce Apache fettered there."

The support of Rev. H. C. Chambers, who expects to go to India as a missionary this Fall, has been assumed by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Flinn, of Pittsburgh.

We append some extracts from a letter received from Mrs. A. M. Porter, of Wood-

ter, O., the mother of Rev. E. L. Porter, of our India mission :

"Word from India this week dated July 27 bears the sad news of cholera being among the orphan boys in the Orphanage at Gujranwala. My son was so distressed over the death of one of his brightest boys. Three others were ill, but recovered. 27 boys were baptized the Sabbath before at communion. Others are asking for the same privilege which will be granted after further instruction."

Rev. C. R. Watson, corresponding secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, accompanied by Mrs. Watson, sailed from New York, Saturday, September 12th, on the steamer "Princess Irene," on their way to India, where they expect to arrive in time for the annual meeting of the India Association in October. All official correspondence is to be directed as usual to Mr. Watson at 921 Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia, where it will receive prompt attention by a committee of the Board having this matter in charge.

"Rex Christus," for the United Study for 1904 is now ready and can be obtained from Miss Elizabeth Caughey, Otto, Pa. She also has on sale Via Christi and Lux Christi. Price 30c paper; 50c cloth.

This month we publish the outline of our denominational studies for next year, hoping that this will give the societies ample time for the assignment of topics to individuals. Once again we reiterate our statement that it is not expected that these programs shall be carried out in full by all the societies, but only that scope may be afforded for selection by each auxiliary, as it may deem best. Some feel able to attempt the more abstruse topics; while others are better satisfied with simpler themes. Our readers will easily see that we must try to suit all classes. The writer regrets that there must be a monotony in the detail of these schedules; but this seems to be unavoidable. The same aspects of the work mus appear again and again; and repetition of topics is quite imperative. New members, who need to study the old subjects, enter the societies ; and some even who have long known about the differing phases of Christian effort find it advisable to refresh their memories and to become acquainted with new facts.

As far as the interdenominational studies are concerned, the Magazine has, of course, no responsibility with regard to the programs prepared. These as outlined were printed in the August Magazine, but probably fuller lists will be issued later.

And now let us speak somewhat respecting the literature needed for the preparation of papers on the topics specified. The text-book, "Rex Christus," is now before the public, and we presume that it, like its two predecessors, will contain ample suggestions as regards helpful books. Our church has no missions in China, and consequently our Magazine cannot promise articles written from the field itself specially for our pages. The missionaries of other denominations have usually all they can do to supply the demands of their own church papers and magazines. Our periodical is not financially able to offer renumeration for work done for its columns; and so the management has a diffidence about being too urgent in its requests to those who are not bound to us by the peculiar ties of denominational kinship. We shall do the best in our power, of course, to furnish from time to time information with regard to the work in China; but we believe that we shall act an honest part in advising all who undertake to follow the United Study of Missions to furnish themselves beforehand with appropriate books and periodicals. "China's Millions, (price twelve pence per year; address Morgan & Scott, 12 Paternoster Building, London, E. C., England,) is a monthly devoted exclusively to evangelical work in that land, while the Missionary Review of the World, (price $2.50 per

year; address Funk & Wagnalls, 30 Lafayette Place, New York City) is instructive in every department. We have no definite knowledge as to the intentions of our Women's Board; but we are convinced that the Literature Committee will endeavor to secure for the aid of our societies leaflets bearing on Christianity in China. This leads us to emphasize forcibly the value of our own literature, and to urge, yes, to implore all to send for the catalogue of leaflets which may be secured from the literature secretaries. Consult the congregational or the Presbyterial secretary first. If she does not prove responsive, write to Miss Elizabeth Caughey, Otto, Pa., whose *money-order* address is McKeesport, Pa. You will be surprised unless your attention has previously been directed to the matter, to discover how ample is the provision made for your needs. Specially are the Egypt and India series valuable. These will help in our consideration of those countries. For the study of the other denominational topics, we refer the reader to back numbers of the Magazine, to the current church papers, and particularly to the Annual Report of the W. G. M. S. and to the Home and Foreign Mission reports. *Remember* that the Magazine, aside from its own monthly issues, keeps no literature for distribution, and that all letters of inquiry and requests for helpful material must be sent to the literature secretaries. This will be more in accordance with the wishes of those officials, will relieve the Magazine editors, and will ensure to the sender a far more satisfactory response.

The annual meeting of the Cleveland Presbyterial Missionary Society will be held in First Church, Cleveland, O., Tuesday, October 20th, 1903.

Outlined Programs for 1903.

OCTOBER—MISSIONS AMONG THE FREEDMEN.

1. The Best Methods by which to Become Familiar with Work among the Freedmen.
2. The Influence of Proper Education upon the Negro.
3. The United Presbyterian Opportunity.
4. Enumeration of our Missionaries and Stations among the Freedmen.
5. The Importance of Training the Youth among the Colored People.
6. Do our Missions Succeed in Teaching the Negro Proper Self-Dependence?
7. Perils of the Freedmen.
8. The Christianization of the Negro.

NOVEMBER—FORCES OF DARKNESS AND FORCES OF LIGHT.

1. India as a Point of Vantage in winning the Eastern World to Christ.
2. Missions to India as Social Settlements.
3. Material, Intellectual and Political Improvement in India under British Rule.
4. Dangers of Civilization without Christianity.
5. Question for Debate: Should the British Viceroy urge the Hindus to keep their Temples in Repair?
6. What should be the Attitude of Christian Women toward Theosophy and Kindred Cults?
7. Native Hindu Reformers.
8. Where does the Responsibility for the Enlightenment of India's Millions Rest?
9. Contrast between the Timidity of many Indian Politicians and the Courage of Indian Missionaries.
10. What may be involved to a High-caste Hindu in making a Public Christian Confession?
11. The Missionary Enterprise and the Kingdom of God.
12. The Religion of Christ the Supreme Revelation.

DECEMBER—OUR INDIA MISSION.

1. The Reactionary Effect of Foreign Missions on the Home Church.
2. The Necessity of a Carefully Prepared Missionary Staff. Importance of Suitable Training-schools.
3. Work among the Children in India.
4. The Waning of Heathenism: The Waxing of Infidelity.
5. Village Missions.
6. Christian Work done by Natives.
7. Vernacular Literature.
8. The Work of a Woman Missionary in India.
9. Hopeful Indications.
10. The Marked Efficiency of United Presbyterian Missions to India Exemplified. M. H. W.

Programs for 1904.

FEBRUARY—EGYPT.

1. Bible Reading: Egypt in Prophecy.
2. Aspects in which Civilization without Christianity has proved a Failure.
3. Spiritual Conditions in the Native United Presbyterian Church.
5. The Training of Missionaries after they reach the field.
6. The teachers in our Egyptian schools: what is their relation to the more direct Mission Work?
7. A sketch of the Present Status of work in the Soudan.
8. What constitutes a "Call" to Foreign Missionary Service?

APRIL—NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS.

1. Duties we owe to the Indians: (a) to learn about them; (b) to Christianize them; (c) to educate them; (d) to provide for them.

2. Subordinate benefits brought to the Indians by the Christian mission.

3. A Sabbath day among the Indians at Simnasho.

4. A Description of Indian child-life.

5. Propriety of United Presbyterians securing government positions among the Indians.

6. Story of our Denominational Work among the Warm Springs Indian.

7. Work in behalf of young Indians.

8. Progress at Tama.

9. What may the Indian become?

JUNE—THE FREEDMEN.

1. Discriptive Sketch: A Trip of Observation to our Freedmen's Stations.

2. The New Type of Negro Womanhood.

3. The Mission Farm Project for the Negro: Is it wise and successful?

4. Character Sketches of some of our Negro workers.

5. The Christianization of the Negro Women a Potent Factor in Evangelizing the colored Race.

6. A Catechetical Exercise compiled from "The Freedmen," (a leaflet published by the Women's Board.)

7. Changing Conditions.

AUGUST—THE YEAR'S WORK OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

1. The Utility and Futility of Money as an Agent in advancing God's cause.

2. The Story of the Year. (Assign the various departments to different individuals)

3. A Question and Answer Exercise from "A Treasury Catechism."

4. What is meant by the "Foreign Mission General Fund?" How is it accumulated and how expended?

5. Reading Circles in the Auxiliary Societies.

6. The Duties of Literature Secretaries.

7. A series of Brief Comments on (a) The value of Homes for Missionaries' Children; (b) The duty of prompt and systematic remittance of contributions; (c) The work of the Finance Committee; (d) The endowment of hospital beds; (e) The method of selecting and appointing missionaries.

8. The widening Prospect of the United Presbyterian church.

OCTOBER—HOME MISSIONS: PARSONAGE WORK: MINISTERIAL RELIEF.

1. The West as a Mission-Field.

2. The Work of the Woman Missionary in Cities.

3. The Parents' Prime Home Mission.

4. Reciprocal Duties of the W. G. M. S. and its missionaries.

5. United Presbyterian Work among Immigrants.

6. The Need of Denominational Loyalty in Home Mission Work.

7. Financial Aspects of the Parsonage Work.

8 Ways of aiding the Parsonage Fund.

9. Advantages accruing from a suitable Parsonage (a) to the pastor: (b) to the congregation.

10. "Motives and Means" for Ministerial Relief.

11. Method of securing aid for needy and deserving aged ministers or their families.

DECEMBER—INDIA.

1. Map Study: Our Mission Stations in India, with brief statement of facts relating to each.

2. Is the Punjab open to United Presbyterianism? Specific Hindrances and Encouragements.

3. A Definition of "Self-Support" in Missions.

4. The Need and Value of Suitable Education among the Native Women.

5. Industrial Training. Is it feasible in connection with our Mission?

6. The Necessity of Missionary Holidays, and their Utility to the Cause.

7. The version of the Scriptures used by our church in India.

8. Discussion: The Hospital Work.

9. The Future of the Famine Orphans: Has their rescue been from sin as well as suffering?

10. The training of Native Theological Students.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY TOPICS FOR 1904

JANUARY. First Mission Study.
FEBRUARY. Egypt.
MARCH. Second Mission Study.
APRIL. North American Indians.
MAY. Third Mission Study.
JUNE. Freedmen.
JULY. Fourth Mission Study.
AUGUST. The Year's Work.
SEPTEMBER. Fifth Mission Study.
OCTOBER. Home Missions, Parsonage Work, Ministerial Relief.
NOVEMBER. Sixth Mission Study.
DECEMBER. India.

Thank-offering.

DYING! And "No Man Careth for Their Souls."

Dying! Yes, dying by thousands!
A hopeless despairing death.
Can we not hear them calling,—
Pleading with bated breath,—
Will no one come and bring us light?
Must we perish in darkness darker than night?

Dying! Ah! it is easy,
Unheeding the Master's call,
To sit with folded hands and sing
"Oh! Crown Him Lord of all."
But where are the gems to lay at His feet,
Which may sparkle some day in His crown complete?

Dying! And "no man careth,"
Alas! it is sadly true
Oh for a voice to cry aloud
And rouse men up—*to do*!
Sympathy, pity, good will, they give,
But is that enough that the dying may live?

Dying! Yes, they are dying:
May it echo in our ears,
Till the cry shall wring from our sinful hearts
Holy, repentant tears,
And we whisper low at the Master's feet,
"Lord, use us just as thou seest meet."

A Message To Societies.

The month of October having been designated by our Women's General Missionary Society as a "Rally Month" for the Women's and Junior societies, we trust that every organization, without a single exception, will enter upon an active campaign on October first and use every effort to increase the interest, activity, spirituality and membership, throughout the entire month.

Reader, what will the month record in Heaven's account book for you and your society? Remember, every faithful effort put forth in the Lord's strength will bring its reward. Can it be that there is a single society content with its present attainments and will put forth no extra efforts? *We doubt it.*

If we are to have efficient workers in our churches in the future it is specially necessary to begin the training of the children and young people in early life. The church needs them, missions need them; they need the training and Christ wants them active in His service. And where can this training be more effectively and systematically done than in the Junior organizations of the church? While the old plan of holding monthly meetings for the boys and girls was most excellent in its time, and the best we had in pioneer days, should not all the leaders, as far as possible, be ready and willing to fall into line with the more advanced workers of the church and plan to hold semi-monthly, if not monthly meetings. From what parts of the church come the best reports of interest, proved through gifts to Missions? From those congregations where the old plan of meeting once a month is adhered to and no effort to have more frequent meetings for the Juniors? Or where the new method of holding weekly meetings is in use, and the Juniors are being well trained in conducting devotional exercises and serving on the various committees in the several lines of work. To believe or to say that, through working on the several committees, the training for real mission work is neglected, is a grave mistake and only ignorance of these newer methods could prompt the criticism. In fact, the work of every committee brings the boys and girls into active work for missions. To illustrate briefly: Set to work ten or twelve of the older Juniors as a Sabbath-school committee to bring new scholars into the Sabbath-school. What is the result? They become at once active workers in the truest sense and all the members are soon interested in helping that department of the Junior work. In one Sabbath-school known to the writer thirty new scholars were brought in through

the efforts of the Junior Union. Get a Look-out committee of bright boys and girls to bring new members into the society, or to look after the careless members and remind them of the day and hour of meeting, and to make known to the tardy ones how much they miss by not coming early. What is the result? In one way or another every member is soon at work helping said committee. Or interest the missionary committee in carrying flowers or fruit to the sick; or in collecting articles for a box to be sent to a needy mission stations. What is the result? Every member will want to help carry cheer to the sick and at the ingathering for the box, every boy and girl will come with a gift, and for the time all serving on the Missionary Committee. In how many, many ways the young differ in their ways of working from their older workers. If there are fifty Juniors in the society, the entire fifty will be anxious to help pack the box, while at a woman's society the gathering of articles and the work of packing is usually done by the "faithful few" from time to time.

Where the children of the church were formerly taught on the subject of missions in the Mission Bands, (of precious memory,) but once a month, and their offerings given as seldom, through the newer methods the subject is in one way or another brought out of every week's lesson as well as through the regular monthly missionary topics. The training to give weekly contributions into the mission treasury and over and above this to give a thank-offering is the result of the newer methods of training and will tell large things in the future of the church in the way of serving and giving and praying. Who are the deeply interested leaders and helpers in our Junior Societies today? Those who a few years ago were Juniors themselves. Who are the best givers of tithes and offerings in our Junior work? Those who have been trained as children in these same societies.

May God bless the dear Juniors all over our church, and lead them during this month of October, "our Rally Month," to plan, to pray and give and work more earnestly and more intelligently in the future than in the past. And may the Juniors by their youthful enthusiasm and zeal lead the older societies into greater service for the Master. We will anxiously watch for reports of October rallies from all parts of the church. Shall we not have them?

Sincerely yours,

MRS. MARY CLOKEY PORTER.

A Tester of Character.

It has been said that the "collection basket" at a Sabbath service is one of the most practical of sieves for sifting an audience—that the collector takes up more than the money; he takes up the character of the audience. Might it not be truly said that the Thank-offering box is a tester of character? The heart that loves to express gratitude to God day by day, longs to prove it with an offering and hence sees the urgent need of a safe place in which to deposit her gifts, so she secures a Thank-offering box. Alas! Where is the loving gratitude of the many who will wait till the close of the year to give their annual offering, when the legion of special blessings which call loudly for such expressions of gratitude are forgotten. Reader, are you supplied with a Thank-offering box? If so, how are you listening to its appeals? Are you giving into it "as the Lord hath prospered you?"

Foreign News Budget.

India.

Notes from Lyallpur by Miss Kate A. Hill:

The hot season up-to-date has not been so trying as usual. We do not expect rain in this section as the canal furnishes water for all the crops. However, the climate seems to be changing and we have had an unusual number of good rains. Our most trying weather was in June. Little Donald Crowe was taken ill and had to be taken to the hills. We miss our missionary children very much when they go away.

Our girls' school in the city closed July 31st for two months. The teachers have done well and are coming back to us next year.

Cholera broke out in Lyallpur the first of the month of July. It was brought here by pilgrims returning from Hurdwar. One day when Mrs. N. Ali and I were visiting a Hindu woman and spoke of God's forgiveness of sin, she replied, "No I'm too great a sinner. I was not content to remain at home with my boy. I went to Hurdwar, One day he was with me and the next he was gone." The mother's heart was too sad and lonely to think God would forgive her! Just so it was during the cholera outbreak here. One day there were unbroken family circles; next day some one had departed. One little girl was taken from our school. On Wednesday at noon she started home full of fun and laughter as any school girl at home. At ten that night she was stricken and at nine the next morning before we knew of her illness she was gone. She was an orphan but had been taken when but three days old by an aunt and carefully trained and taught. She was a member of our Junior society and on Wednesday had been talking of the meeting on Thursday, but instead we met about her grave and she had met with Jesus. Early that morning the baby of one of our Christian families had been buried We felt that cholera had come close to us but God mercifully spared all the lives of the Christians. Because of the cholera the daily attendance decreased in the school and we close with a smaller roll than we hoped.

The girls in their sewing class have made book bags of bright colored cloth for each child in the school. These they will get the "last day" instead of cards.

Our Sabbath-school has improved during the past months both in numbers and in regular attendance. We now have two classes for women, three for men and three for children. At the beginning of the summer we had but one class for children. It grew too large for one class and was divided. The third class began a few weeks ago The teacher from the school in the low caste quarters gathered his pupils together and one day twenty-three boys and girls all under ten came to Sabbath-school. Some were clothed entirely, some partially and some very scantily and a few smaller ones not at all! But they were very interested in all they saw and heard and delighted in joining in the "Amen" at the end of a prayer. The card at the close of Sabbath-school pleased them but it wasn't big enough and didn't have a picture of Jesus on it! May I ask the readers of these notes to remember the boys and girls in the schools and Sabbath-school in Lyallpur?

Rose A. McCullough writes from Gujranwala:

We have three Junior societies in Gujranwala; one the Boys' Industrial Home, superintended by one of the Christian young men, Kehra Mall; one in the Girls' Boarding School, superintended by Miss Moore and one in Dogran village in the suburbs under my own supervision. In my society there are 63 names enrolled and the average attendance is good. It is composed of both boys and girls, but the former exceed the latter. Some of the boys are quite small and it is difficult to keep them quiet. But they learn with the rest and are especially fond of the singing, all joining most heartily in that and often without regard to time or tune. They can learn nevertheless as they sing one or two Psalms they have sung frequently. We meet every Monday afternoon while the women's prayer-meeting meets in the same place Friday afternoon.

One day two little boys not more than five years old were standing near the door and one said to the other "let us go into the meeting;" the other said with a very pompous air, "Oh that is only the women's meeting. Our committee meets on Monday. The word 'committee' has become very popular among all classes and is the term used by the natives for the smaller meetings. And it is wonderful how correctly even the little ones pronounce it.

While I write the rain is pouring down. We are glad and thankful to see it although in some ways, at the time our work is hindered by it. People were beginning to fear another famine, and on Sabbath Mr. Cummins prayed so earnestly for rain it was remembered and spoken of when the rain began to fall on Monday afternoon when I was in the village where many of our Gujranwala Christians live. When starting there, my syce laughed at me because I said it might rain before our return. We returned in the rain. This is Friday and we have had a heavy rain each day since, which is rejoicing the hearts of the farmers and giving them an opportunity to plow and sow their grain.

Oh that God would thus pour out His spirit upon this land so darkened by sin and heathenism. Pray that he may. "The prayer of a righteous man availeth much," is the promise and God's promises never fail.

Rosa T. Wilson writes from Gurdaspur July, 13:

These days have been very hot and trying and it is

hard to keep up our work. I spent three weeks in the hills as I had to have a change, but am thankful I am again able to take up my duties. At the beginning of this month we had meetings for our congregation and workers continuing seven days; also communion, after which the Self-support Committee, which was appointed by the mission, visited us. The meetings have done much good in getting our people convinced of the duty of giving the tenth and arousing the careless and indifferent in their work. Also some have been convinced of sin and brought to forsake it; some at enmity with each other reconciled.

On the morning of the tenth "Our Bible School" began, Rev. Holliday having charge of the men; my sister and I of the women. We have 21 women enrolled. I have five that cannot read to whom I teach verses and practical subjects. Cynthia has the rest and is teaching Romans and the first part of Patterson's Analysis of the Shorter Catechism; Rev. Holliday is teaching Hosea and 1 Corinthians. Rev. Cummings is to give some lectures this week. May the spirit be poured on us in full measure and we have a great blessing is our prayer.

Egypt.

Anna Y. Thompson writes from Cairo:

There has been an urgent request for a teacher for women in Omdurman and I have just written to our preacher there to ask him what arrangements can be made for her in case we find one suitable, who is willing to go. I fear it will be very hard to get an Egyptian young woman who can have courage enough to go the long distance unless she knows some one there and has company on the journey. It seems to be as much of an undertaking, or more, than for a young woman to come from America to Egypt. There is this difference too, most of those who come out from America know something about the missionaries in the field and more or less about their work.

The school work of teaching in Omdurman for the present would be for Arabic speaking people, so there would be no necessity for learning the language of a new country. The language in Egypt is a thing which is a great task before new missionaries.

We have been very much interested in reading about the ways our missionaries at Doliab Hill use to encourage children to come to them so that they can commence to teach them something.

If we could start many more schools in Cairo, we could reach a great many more people, have more meetings, etc., but we are very scarce of missionaries now for even carrying on the work we have on hand. So we are eagerly looking forward to the return of those who are home on furlough and the new missionaries who are to come. May they come "in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ."

We are feeling very sorry that we are to lose Miss Martin from Cairo when Miss Smith comes back for Miss Martin was needed in the Fayoum and she was appointed for that place at the meeting of the Association. There was a request for Miss Helen Ferrier from Mansoura, and Mr. and Mrs. Coventry have the promise of her help when Miss Kyle returns to Cairo. This, however, has made some of us very sad as we feel she is much needed here.

Miss Nan Sommer, who has taken such an interest in mission work in Egypt wrote asking our Association to appoint a day in January for united prayer for Egypt and the Soudan. Wednesday, January 27th was the day appointed and we hope many of our friends in America can join with us on that day. Christ's words are very encouraging, "If two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven."

Mrs. H. M. Harvey writes from Cairo:

Miss Thompson and I spent this forenoon in visiting friends in Old Cairo, an hour's ride by "tram way" from our house. One of the deacons of the central church moved there some time ago. He has rented a house on the river and being a very "handy man" has made himself a little boat to amuse himself as he has no work and is not in good health.

Four other families visited were at one time connected with our church, but one or more members of each family have been employed by the church missionary society and they have connected with that mission, but they are always friendly with us and we visit them as often as possible. The C. M. S. have built a nice little church in Old Cairo and they say that it is well filled on Sabbath. They have also a hospital there and we often send our people to it. Their charges are less than that of any other hospital in the city, except the government and no one will go to the government hospital if they can possibly avoid it. But we have had to send some of our people there much as they and we dislike it. But the last person we sent, or rather took, to the government hospital was for a very serious operation, and the operation was successful and she had every care and attention. When I left her there I never expected to see her again; but God was pleased to hear her prayers and those offered in her behalf and she is now a happy and thankful woman. Hospitals have a very different savor to which they had twenty or even ten years ago. A man said to me, of the hospital in Assiout, "Every one used to be afraid of the hospital, now if one has a sore finger he wants to go right to the hospital."

We are looking forward to the time when the Tanta hospital will be opened, knowing the comfort and blessing it will be to many, not only to the ladies, but also to the souls of many.

Elizabeth Giffen writes from Ramleh:

As I sit here at my bedroom window, on the upper veranda of our temporary Ramle home, I can look out over the house tops and see the sea beyond. Its waters are deep blue; so blue that it looks almost black when the clouds are floating low, and the white caps in the waves look like numerous white winged gulls.

The first three weeks of July were more or less taken up with the semi-annual meeting of Association and although the responsibility of those meetings did not fall on all of us alike, still the problems to be solved, affected us all more or less, and I think none of us felt that we were resting during those days. There were some changes made inthe location of young ladies and Cairo has lost two. We will miss them in many ways and not the least to be mentioned is in the singing. We are sorry to lose them, but our loss is other's gain.

Many of our missionaries do not have the privilege of Sabbath services in English and while here we have such service at 5 p. m., each of the ministers taking his turn with the preaching. I think we all enjoy these services more than any others during the year. There are not often many, except the missionaries and

their children present and the service is very impressive. Our collections amount to 5 or 6 dollars each day. We have our mid-week prayer-meeting at 8 p. m. each Wednesday.

Some of our missionaries attend the Sabbath morning Arabic service in Alexandria. This takes the entire forenoon and leaves little time for quiet reading and rest and it is a struggle between duty and inclination, but when we consider our influence, we set the latter aside.

Notes from Fayoum:

Since the summer Association meeting, we, of the Fayoum are rejoicing over the prospects of reinforcements at our station. When Miss Smith returns to Cairo Miss Martin comes to Fayoum. She will meet with a hearty welcome and more work than her required study of the language will permit her to undertake for some time to come.

During the three spring months one of the three lady missionaries, who came out last autumn, was with us. Each one for a month only because she could not be spared no longer from her own station. Personally it was a very pleasant arrangement for in that way we became intimately acquainted with those whom otherwise it might have taken years to know so well. But our people did not look on it that way. They said, "Why is this? They send us a teacher and just when we have learned to love her they take her away again." If the grief of the girls be measured by the tears shed we had some most sorrowful farewells.

No missionary was with us the last three weeks and we tried the experiment of holding school from 7 a. m. to 12:30 only, but the arrangement was not satisfactory and we are eagerly looking forward to the coming of Miss Martin.

Items from Ramleh:

During the month of June I visited all the pupils of the two Bible women, fifty in number, and as we went about from house to house, through the heat and dust, I realized as I had not done before how difficult and trying from the physical side is the work.

The Bible women and colporteurs are truly seed sowers and the difficulties to be met are many. They need much of the grace of God to enable them to endure the hardships and rebuffs which they often meet.

Our girls' school in Mansoura closed today for a month's vacation. We have been in Ramleh for several weeks coming down just before Association meeting. When we left Mansoura it was very uncertain whether it would do to close, although we felt that both teachers and pupils would be much better for a vacation. Our closing depended on the closing of a Mohammedan school which has been working against the mission school the past two years letting no opportunity slip to draw our girls away. If they took no vacation we knew that in order to retain the little girls we must keep the school open as we did last year. Some of the parents are glad to send their children to school to have them out of the way at home and if one school is closed another will do. We are glad that both schools are closed for the month and trust that teachers and pupils may all return in September and take up the work with renewed interest.

One of the larger girls has lately been engaged and has been much more diligent in embroidering a cap for her future husband than in her other lessons. When some complaints were made to her father that she must do better work in her classes, he begged that we would allow her to do the embroidery for if she had it finished at a certain time the young man had agreed to give her a cow and as they were poor it would be hard if she were prevented from winning the cow. I do not know whether the cow is in her possession yet or not.

Missionary Correspondence.

BHERA, EGYPT, July 18th, '03

DEAR FRIENDS:—We had a fortnight of very hot trying weather during the first half of July, but on Monday evening last it rained and the mercury came down into the 80's and on Tuesday morning I took the train for Malakwal, accompanied by Chloe, a little waif, who has been adopted by Miss Morgan, one of the dispensary workers. We rode 3rd class in the zenana compartment and it was crowded. The women are not overly clean and the babies all had dirty faces and from sore eyes, colds and general neglect of soap and water.

A native woman never uses a handkerchief or other cloth to clean her child's nose, but uses her fingers and then wipes them on the edge of the seat or on the window sill or other convenient place. They are given to even filthier habits which I cannot mention; so a ride with them on a hot day when the car is crowded is not a very refreshing experience.

A woman got in just as we did who was going to a funeral in Miani, a few miles from Bhera, and there were several of her relatives already sitting in the car; so they at once began to wail, and it was impossible to hear a word any one might speak for about half an hour. Then one of them quieted down and presently began to say to the others, "There now, that will do. Now stop." So they all stopped except the one who had gotten in last.

Then they turned their attention to us. I was asked about half a dozen times if Chloe was my daughter. They always seem to think that persons going together must be related. The other day in the city they would not believe but that I am the Bible woman's daughter, while I am several years her senior in age. After these mourners left us at Miani an old woman, in the next seat, and I had a chat. I sometimes on short trips travel 3rd class in order to have a talk with the women passengers. This old lady was on her way to Jhelum where her son and her husband are in employment. She has often heard the gospel as the missionary ladies in Jhelum visit her house. She made the old stereotyped excuses, "If God has a son who is his wife ?" and "If we accept the Gospel all the world will turn against us." She was very friendly and rather intelligent.

Our object in going to Malakwal was to visit the family of Mohammed Hosain, the Mission worker there. He, his wife and two little girls, are the only native Christians in the place, so our visit was quite an event to them.

Chloe and the children spent a happy day together and after a little delay, Khaji and I went out to call on a woman with whom she is intimate, who can read. She is not a native of the place, but her husband is in employment there. We had an interesting talk with her and found her more intelligent than the average Punjabi women, but she gives no evidence of any conviction of sin or of any felt need of a Saviour. Khaji was not feeling well, and was obliged to lie down in the shade of a tree on her way home, although it was only a short distance.

After partaking of a nice meal of curry and rice prepared by the husband, we lay down for the customary noon day siesta, and after we had been refreshed by that, we all together sang several Psalms in Punjabi, of which the children are very fond, and then read a chapter from the Word and had prayer together, the children taking an interest in the reading, and answering correctly the questions put to them, thus showing that they are receiving instruction in the home. It was now time to go to the station for the return train, so bidding good-bye, we were off.

As it was much warmer by this time we did not try the third class compartment, but took the Intermediate for "ladies only," and found one passenger already seated. As we got in she suddenly drew her veil down over her face and squatted on the floor of the car. I supposed she was frightened at us and I spoke to her to reassure her, but she did not reply. Presently she peeped out of the window and then sat up on the seat and uncovered her face. She was quite a young girl, dressed in silk trimmed with gold (or gilt) braid, and loaded with jewelry, She became very friendly, but presently she suddenly went through the former performance of squatting on the floor, and then she told me that "he" was out there, and peeping out pointed him out to me, a young lad standing some distance off on the platform, and whenever he came where he could see her she would suddenly slip from the seat to the floor. We were the only passengers in that compartment and I tried to tell her of the love of God in sending His son to die for sinners, but she did not seem to comprehend it very well.

We reached home about six o'clock p. m. and thus ended a day of mission work. "Nothing striking in that," some will perhaps say. No there is nothing "striking," and that is just the case with the most of our days, and when we write of our work just as it is, it makes a rather prosy and uninteresting recital just like this, and that is what makes it so difficult to write letters or reports, for the "striking" or "interesting" episodes are not plenty, at least in the writer's experience. But this is becoming too long, so I bid you farewell.

ELIZABETH MCCAHON.

Young People's Department.

Exchange.

RALLY MONTH.

At the Convention in Allegheny, October was designated as a month during which special effort be made to secure new members for the missionary society. The following plans have proved successful and may be suggestive to other societies.

Prepare a list of the ladies in the church who are not members of the missionary society, each member selecting those she will invite to attend this special meeting, until all the names on the list are taken. When inviting these ladies make it a personal invitation, each one calling for her guests if possible. It might be interesting to hear a a report of the work of the local society as well as the Women's General Missionary Society at this meeting. During the social time if about fifteen minutes just before the close, each lady may invite her guests to become members, any not ready to join should be given a cordial invitation to attend as often as possible. If they come they will surely become interested.

A little different plan for each member is each month invite a friend to go with her to the missionary meeting, all members making it a point to be cordial to the visitors. After a few meetings the visitors will express a desire to join.

Another plan reported is to divide the society into two or more divisions, each with a captain, and canvas for new members among the women of the congregation. The division gaining the smallest number is to entertain the entire society with the new members for the guests of honor.

There are many in our churches who can be interested by systematic individual effort. Do not allow the month of October to pass without each one receivi an invitation to join the Women's, You Women's or Junior Missionary Societ even if to accomplish this some soci pleasures and household duties must neglected.

PICNIC FOR RETURNED MISSIONARIES.

The Women's Missionary Society, Jamestown, O., gave a missionary picn at the country home of Mrs. J. H. Lacke September 1st, in honor of the return missionaries, Rev. J. A McConnellee a wife, Rev. J. W. Ballantine and wife, Re D. R. Gordon and wife, of India, a Miss Ella O. Kyle, of Egypt, the four l dies having been born and reared in th vicinity. Many invited guests from Xeni Cedarville and Jamestown were present

At 3 p. m. the assembly was called order by the president, Mrs. J. Harv Lackey, a short program being rendere Mrs. John Carruthers Brown conducte the praise service; Mrs. Samuel Pidge gave the greeting of the Missionary s ciety; Mrs. Anna Lorimer Hastings, fro the Cedarville society made the respons Then followed a short talk by each of t missionaries. Mrs. Ballantine and Mr McConellee sang several selections fro the Psalms in India's native languag The exercises closed by singing the 2 Psalm and prayer by the pastor, Dr. Rob

It was a day well spent and greater i terest was awakened in the cause of mi sions by the earnest and instructive talk

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A Magazine Social.

The church paper social held in Bro Avenue church, Erie, Pa., as reported the church papers led to the suggesti of a Magazine social. The program outlined, with music, is one paper, "W

We Need the Magazine;" another paper, it's counterpart, "Why the Magazine Needs Us." Short talks of five minutes on the different departments, Thank-offering, Foreign News Budget, Stories, Report of Board of Directors of the W. G. M. S. (without reading this we can not know the latest news from those delegated to do this work for us), Young People's Department, Programs, etc. For the Junior Magazine, the special work for the year; lessons for the Christian Union; Missionary Study. One little Junior might recite a poem, another read a story from the Junior Magazine. Allow a little time for the readers of these magazines to tell what benefit the magazines has been to them; the little tot as well as the gray-haired grandmother.

An art exhibit can be arranged from pictures cut from the magazines: refreshments served free and part of the evening given to social enjoyment. A box, tastefully ornamented, can be placed in a conspicuous place for each one to place something for the magazine fund, the amount to be known to no one; or another plan is for a number of young ladies or Juniors to pass among the people during the serving of refreshments with a covered box or basket with an opening in the top taking a collection in an informal way. By this plan that desired goal can be reached, a missionary magazine in every family and a junior magazine for all the children.

Doubtless many have wished to subscribe for some one not able to give even the sixty cents, or for one who is indifferent, but the thought came of a number of others who would equally enjoy it and with a sigh of helplessness they have sent only their own. Those who are able will contribute much; those who are not, little. The names of all the women of the congregation will be sent and the money taken from this fund. No soliciting or subscribing, the richest and poorest receiving the magazine alike. This plan followed by personal invitation will answer the often repeated question, How interest all our women in the missionary society?

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

The following questions have been sent from a western superintendent to the Junior secretary with a request that they be answered in the Women's Missionary Magazine.

1. Is the Junior Missionary Society an organization of the Women's General Missionary Society?

The Junior Missionary Society is an outgrowth of the mission bands which have been under the care of the women of the church during the past thirty years and has about the same object in view, viz: To develop an interest in the cause of missions among the children of our own and other lands; to form the habit of systematic giving and to aid in the work of the Women's General Missionary Society. The name was changed from mission bands to Junior Missionary Society at the Philadelphia convention in 1892 and the convention pledged to support. It is the only Junior society under the care of the Women's General Missionary Society and its Board.

2. Has the General Assembly approved of the Junior Missionary Society?

The General Assembly has twice endorsed the Junior missionary society (see minutes 1895—1903) and recommended it to the church and requested the women's societies to co-operate with the secretary in the extention of this work.

3. Should the women's societies strive to organize this society instead of Junior Unions?

It is needless to say the women should give preference to their own organization over which they have full control and which aids in the work. The Women's Board took action recommending the organization of a Junior missionary society in every congregation even where there are other Junior organizations, in case it can be done harmoniously. In a number of our congregations there are the two so-

cieties running without friction and producing a wholesome rivalry.

4. Is the Junior superintendent an officer and should she be one of the committee, both in the congregational and presbyterial societies?

According to the constitution and by-laws prepared by the Women's Board for Presbyterial societies, the executive committee shall be composed of the officers of this society and the presidents and superintendents of auxiliaries. The superintendents of Junior missionary societies should therefore be accorded the same place in executive as the presidents of the congregational societies.

5. Are the members of the senior women's missionary society honorary members of the Junior missionary society and should they pay 25 cents a year to J. M. S. to be used for general expenses?

Anybody may become an honorary member of the Junior missionary society by the annual payment of 25c, 50c or $1, whether in the church or out of it, whether living in the same city or in a foreign city. The members of the L. M. S. should have the interest of the Juniors sufficiently at heart to become honorary members in order to encourage them and help them maintain a contingent fund. The children's missionary money should never be used for general expenses.

Missionary Biographies.

(A chapter from "Missionary Principles and Practice." By ROBT. E. SPEER, Secretary of the American Presbyterian Missionary Society. See Book Notices, p. 27.—ED.)

"How can I maintain a warm missionary interest?" says one. "How can I interest others?" asks a second. "I find it difficult to preach effective missionary sermons," complains the preacher. The young worker wonders how the monthly missionary meeting can be kept up year after year, and never lose freshness and power. "How can this group of boys," the band leader inquires, "be made to take delight in missions?" There is one answer to all these: Do you use the rich and ever richer stores of missionary biography?

There is power in these life stori See it in the unmeasured and continu influence of the life of Brainerd. In 1 the Society for Promoting Christi Knowledge, in Edinburgh, published journal. He died next year at the age thirty-one. He was no genius, orat scholar or discoverer. Is there any in ence stronger than his? His journal spired Carey and helped to shape course. Martyn read it at Cambridge it made him a missionary. Murray Cheyne read it and was moulded by "The Memoirs of David Brainerd Henry Martyn gave me particular ple ure," wrote young John Wilson in 1 "Try to get hold of the life of John W son, the great Scotch missionary of dia," wrote Keith-Falconer in 1878. apostolic succession goes on. Let minister or worker, conscious that power has departed from him, or that needs more, turn to this old-time rec of a life of utter devotion and prayer.*

And there is fascination of interest life like Martyn's. Sir James Steph declared his to be "the one heroic na which adorns the annals of the Chur of England, from the days of Elizabe to our own." Who can read, witho feeling the attractiveness of it all, t story of the mine captain's son, who w Senior Wrangler, who, with the burd of a hopeless human love on his hea went to India as a chaplain of the E India Company, preaching on the way Brazil and among the Hottentots, shiv ing in India "as if standing, as it we in the neighborhood of hell"; who ma tered Arabic and Persian that he mig understand the Koran and translate t Scriptures; who left India in 1811 reach Persia and Arabia to preach th and complete his translations; and wh broken in health, fell at Tokat in 18 having literally realized his own pray "Now let me burn out for God?" †

* "Memoirs of David Brainerd." Edited by J. Sherwood. London: A. Melrose.

† "Henry Martyn." By GEORGE SMITH. Lon Religious Tract Society.

Can any one read the life of Alexander Mackey and not be stirred to the depths of his soul?" "Unable to arouse interest in missions"—surely the man who says this must have lost sensitiveness to the noble and glorious in life! Stanley thought the sight of him worth a journey and his words are commended to all mourners over missions: "He has no time to fret and groan and weep; and God knows, if ever man had reason to think of 'graves and worms and oblivion,' and to be doleful and lonely and sad, Mackay had when Mwanga, after murdering his bishop, and burning his pupils, and strangling his converts, and clubbing to death his dark friends turned his eye of death on him. And yet the little man met it with calm blue eyes that never winked. To see one man of this kind working day after day for twelve years bravely, and without a syllable of complaint or moan, amid the 'wildernesses,' and to hear him lead his little flock to show forth God's loving kindness in the morning, and His faithfulness every night is worth going a long journey for the more courage and contentment one derives from it." When Stanley's party came away, the last sight was of the lonely figure of "the best missionary since Livingstone" standing on the brow of the hill waving farewell, and then turning back to his work and his God. Is there no interest in that lonely figure?*

. . . . . Who can read the inscription of the marble tablet in the Baptist meeting-house at Malden—

IN MEMORIAM.

REV. ADONIRAM JUDSON,
Born August 9, 1783,
Died, April 12, 1850.
Malden, his birthplace.
The ocean, his sepulchere.
Converted Burmans, and The Burman
Bible His monument.
His record is on high.

Without desiring to read that part of his record which is written here on the earth? It was a missionary book—Buchanan's *Star in the East*—which awakened Judson's missionary spirit, He would have been a great man in any sphere. His father foresaw it. As a missionary his name is not far below Paul's. Though the foremost of American missionaries, the story of his life is little told outside of the Baptist churches. Yet there is a wealth of interest in it. Even children understand the heroism of the spirit which endured calmly for months, during the imprisonment at Ava, taunts and insults, racking fever and ague, the sight of dying and tortured fellow-prisoners, only to break utterly, while "the tears flowed down to the chains that clanked about his ankles," when his wife brought their new-born baby in her arms to be kissed through the iron bars of his cell, and offered him a mince pie, made with effort and suffering, to remind him of old New England, where to judge from present habits—and may God forgive us that it is so!—hundreds of Christians were offering no prayer and taking no thought for him. Does the life of the Son of God Himself interest those who are not interested in such lives as these? †

Aside from the example and preaching of Jesus, there is no richer field than missionary biography for the study of one who believes in prayer and would help others to realize its power and use it. The life of William C. Burns, of China, must suffice for illustration. "Know him sir?" exclaimed one, with almost indignant surprise, when asked if he knew Burns. "All China knows him. He is the holiest man alive." It is easy to understand why men felt this way. While residing in Edinburgh, before going to China, he had a private key to the Church of St. Luke's, and there an entry in his journal indicates that at least on one occasion he was "detained" a whole night in solitary prayer "before the Lord." In beginning his ministry in Dundee, he was known to spend the whole night on his face on the floor, praying that he might

* "Mackay of Uganda." By his Sister. London: Hodder & Stoughton.

† "The Life of Adoniram Judson." By EDWARD JUDSON. New York: A D. F. Randolph & Co.

meet the responsibilities laid upon him. "All the week long 'he filled the fountains of his spirit with prayer,' and on Sabbath the full fountain gave forth its abundant treasures." Such prayer makes influence immortal.

"O William Burns! we will not call thee dead,
Though lies thy body in its narrow bed
In far-off China."

When the trunk containing the property he had left behind was opened in England, there were found "a few sheets of Chinese printed matter, a Chinese and an English Bible, an old writing-case, one or two small books, a Chinese lantern, a single Chinese dress, and the blue flag of the 'Gospel Boat.' 'Surely,' whispered one little one amid the awe-struck silence —'surely he must have been very poor.'" There was One who for His sake and ours had been poorer still. ‡

For purposes of sober illustration or intense appeal to the unselfish and heroic, nothing can surpass the life of David Livingstone, whom Florence Nightingale called "the greatest man of his generation." The vision of the boy placing his book on the spinning-jenny, and studying amid the roar of the machinery at Blantyre, or sitting contentedly down before his father's door to spend the night, upon arriving after the hour for locking it; the old coat, eleven years behind the fashion, which he wore when he emerged at Cape Town after Kolanberg had been pillaged; the sadness of the scene when he buried his little daughter in "the first grave in all this country," he wrote to his parents "marked as the resting-place of one of whom it is believed and confessed that she shall live again;" his jocular letters to his daughter Agnes about his distorted teeth, "so that my smile is like that of a hippopotamus;" the meeting with Stanley when he was a "mere ruckle of bones;" the indomitable grit of the man whose last words in Scotland were: "Fear God and work hard,"—this life is full of such things as these, capable of use, inviting it. And when, before or since, has this world been swayed by eloquence comparable with that of his death? No pulpit has ever spoken with such power. The worn frame kneeling by the bedside at Ilala, pulseless and still while the rain dripped from the eaves of the hut, dead in the attitude of prayer, solitary and alone, sent a thrill through the souls of men, which, thank God! is vibrating still, and, with or without the help of those who are "not interested," is working out the redemption wrought once for Africa by the world's Redeemer. §

Are preachers and teachers missing the blessing enfolded in these lives, and derivable from them?—each the life of

"One who never turned his back, but marched breast forward,
Never doubted clouds would break,
Never dreamed, though right were worsted, wrong would triumph,
Held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better,
Sleep to wake."

‡ "Memoirs of the Rev. William C. Burns, M. A" By the Rev. Islay Burns, D. D. London: Jas. Nisbet & Co.

§ "Personal Life of David Livingstone." By W. Blaikie. London: John Murray.

FROM Month TO Month.

Treasurer's Report.

Receipts for month of August 1903.

Foreign Missions.—Allegheny, 6; Frankfort, 15; Pawnee, 4; Indiana Northern, 5.

Foreign Salaries.—Miss Rena Hogg, by 2d Allegheny Y. P. M. S., 112.50; Miss Paden, by Mr. and Mrs. Geo. M. Paden, 50; Miss Mitchell, by Mr. and Mrs. —— friends in 6th Pittsburg, 100; Miss [illegible] Gordon, by Cedar Rapids Presbytery, 75; Miss [illegible] ton, by 10th church, Philadelphia Sabbath-sch[illegible] 125: Miss Fannie C. Martin, by Y. P. C. U. of C[illegible] maugh Pres., 40.

Miscellaneous.—Barnet Center Y. P. S. C. E., 16; Cedar Rapids, 5; Ryegate Y. P. S. C. E., [illegible]

Girls' Boarding School, Luxor.—Allegheny, 5.
Good Samaritan Hospital, Jhelum, India.—From interest, 199.05.
Martha McKown Memorial Hospital, Jhelum, India.—Junior bed from interest, 30.
Home Missions.—Allegheny, 67.
Indian Missions.—Ryegate L. M. S., 20; Cedar Rapids, 18.
Freedmen's Mission.—Allegheny, 40; Pawnee, 13; Cedar Rapids, 15.
Parsonage and Church Extension.—Winterset, Ia., on loan, 99.90; 2nd Topeka, Kan., on loan, 47; Olympia, Wash., on loan, 83.46; Springfield, Mo., on note, 28; Dales Memorial, Philadelphia, first payment, 388.50; Colorado Springs, on note, 71.40; 5th, Chicago, 88 80; Everett, Wash., 3rd and 4th payments on note one, 100; Denver, Colo., Boulevard, on note, 56.60.
Orphan's Home, Allegheny,—Allegheny, 2.
Memorial Hospital, Allegheny,—Allegheny, 2.
Aged People's Home,—Allegheny, 2.
Women's Missionary Magazine Fund,—From interest, 90.
Life Membership, W. G. M. Soc.—From interest 10.95.

Total, $2.096 16.
E. J. SLOAN, Treas.

Board of Directors.

The regular monthly meeting of the Board was held Sept. 1st in the usual place, after a recess during the month of August. Owing to the recent death of a sister, our president Mrs. Herron, was not able to be present and the 1st vice president, Miss E. D. Brown, presided and conducted devotional exercises, Mrs. Stevenson and Mrs. M. C. Porter leading in prayer. Ten members were present. Assistant treasurer, Miss Brown, called attention to the number of Presbyterial treasurers who send cents in remitting monies and also carry cents in their reports; and requested the secretary to call attention to this matter through the Magazine.

The quarterly report of the Magazine committee was read by the secretary and was approved by the Board.

The Foreign secretary reported that buildings are much in demand, one being asked for Alexandria, Egypt; one for Mansoura; one for Rawal Pindi. This large outlay of money can not be granted in the present condition of our finances, but if some generous hearted man or woman wishes to place a lasting memorial in either or both of these countries, we shall rejoice to see the increased facilities for work.

Some time ago Miss McCahon wrote asking a full explanation of report blanks in use by American missionary societies so that she may have clearly in mind what changes are necessary for our India societies. The answer prepared by Mrs. Reid was on motion approved. The time for the sailing of the next missionary party can not yet be definitely reported. According to the new term of service for missionaries adopted by the Foreign Board, Misses Anderson and Hill will come home next year.

Chairman of Finance committee made a monthly report. A ranch which some years ago was bequeathed to the Allegheny Seminary and the Women's Board has been sold for $7,000 and the sum of $2312.14, our share, was received. July 31st the balance in hands of finance committee was $1438.37; receipts and balance Sept. 1st, $1684.87; disbursed in September, $1105.15; balance Sept. 1st. $579.72.

Home secretary reported a letter stating that Miss Paull had been retained as missionary at West Allis presbytery for a period of four months.

On account of ill health Mrs. Giffen, one of the new missionaries to the Indians at Tama, Ia., has been forced to resign. It was with regret that the Board accepted the resignation.

Monthly reports from Miss Montgomery, Warm Springs; Misses McMunn, Houston, Stewart, Cox and Mr. Fortunato. Seattle mission through Dr. Spalding asked for the appointment of Miss Wade to labor in that field, the request being granted.

Parsonage secretary was present with a long file of applications for parsonage loans. The Board is waiting for the societies to come to the help of these needy ones. In these days of prosperity we should remember our houseless home missionaries.

The members of the local board of Home for Missionaries' Children were re-elected.

As the day was far spent the Freed-

men's and Junior secretaries made mention only of such items of business that could not be left over until the adjourned meeting.

The following resolution was adopted:

That through the secretary the deepest sympathy of the Board be extended to our beloved, President Mrs. Herron, with the earnest prayer that God by His spirit will speak peace and comfort to her in this hour of her sorrow.

MRS. SAMUEL YOURD, Sec'y.

A Pleasant Gathering Versus a Sad One.

The regular monthly meeting of the Women's Missionary Society, of Biggsville U. P. church, was held at the Manse, Saturday afternoon, Sept. 3, 1903. A fair representation of the members was present. Devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. Mary McDill. After the reading of a paper by the secretary some time was spent in business. Delegates were chosen for the Monmouth presbyterial which meets at Gerlaw, Oct. 1st, 1903. It was also decided at this meeting that the society would hold their annual chrysanthenum show in the church. The writer has been told that the society realizes a neat sum of money for missions every year in this unique way. People come from all around to see the flower display and enjoy all the accessories.

The sad part of the program will be of interest to some of the readers of the Magazine. A half hour was spent in honor of one of our oldest and most active members, Mrs. Lizzie Graham Cowden, whose family recently removed to Monmouth. Mrs. David Whiteman told in a most touching manner of our sister's sterling worth as a neighbor. Mrs. Stewart spoke of her work in the missionary society; of her devotion to the church, Sabbath-school and prayer-meeting. The secretary said: "It will be my duty to take your name from the roll call. May we again be a united band in heaven." Others made appropriate remarks after which refreshments were served by the hostess. We all united in saying our goodbyes to our sister, saying, "What is our loss is Monmouth's gain."

THE MANSE.

Notice.

Misunderstanding has arisen at several points with reference to the officers of the Omaha Presbyterial Missionary Society so to straighten out matters the officers are as follows:

Pres., Mrs. Ida M. French, 2517 S. 32d St., Omaha; 1st Vice Pres., Mrs. Henry Walbrook, Dunbar; 2d Vice Pres., Mrs. J. H. Vance, Omaha; Rec. Sec., Miss Zula Renwick, South Omaha; Cor. Sec., Miss Mary Rood, 57th & Templeton Sts., Omaha; Treas., Mrs. James Murray, Lorton, Neb.; Thank-offering Sec., Mrs. N. M. Gray, North Bend; Lit. Sec., Mrs. Ida Fernald, Alliance, Neb.; Jun. Sec., Miss Mary Fowler, North Bend; Special member of executive committee for securing "Dr. Drake Fund" Mrs. G. G. Wallace, 3321 Harney St., Omaha.

Tribute of Love.

The Women's Missionary Society of Martins Ferry congregation offer this tribute of respect:

WHEREAS, Mrs. A R. Robinson, president of our society, has removed to a new field of labor, we express our sorrow in losing from our number one so well beloved, so faithful, earnest and efficient, so untiring in zeal and energy in the Master's service; and we most heartily commend her to the Christian love and fellowship of those with whom she is called to labor.

COM.

Miss Anna K. McKinney.

The Womans' Missionary and Ladies' Aid Society of Graham's church, Pine Bush, N. Y., desires to offer a tribute of love and esteem to the memory of a valued member, Miss Anna K. McKinney, who entered into rest August 7th, 1903.

We mourn the loss of an earnest worker, always willing to do what she could to further the Lord's work, a faithful charter member of the societies and also our treasurer for seventeen years.

We wish to bear testimony to her noble Christian character, her sunny disposition, always looking on the bright side. No dying testimony was given, but her life was a constant testimony for Christ.

As a society and as personal friends, we sorrow, but not as those who have no hope, and extend our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved friends and commend them to Him who is the great comforter.

COM.

Mrs. Anne Soults.

On the 3rd day of June, 1903, Mrs. Anne Soults passed from her earthly life of 81 years, to her eternal heavenly life.

The Clarion L. M. S. desires to express their gratitude to God that they were permitted during many years to enjoy her sweet fellowship. and to be under her benign influence. Our prayer is that her mantle of child-like faith and interest in the advancement of Christ's kingdom may fall upon us who remain.

SUSAN FRENCH,
MARY E. STURGEON,
EDNA D. POLLOCK.

DR. MARIA WHITE AND HELPERS AT THE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IN SIALKOT, INDIA.